

FIGHT STILL ON FOR WOODS HOUSE

Relatives of Eccentric Woman Who Left \$400,000 Estate Again Try to Get Possession of Fortune.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BREAK THE WILL.

Cousins Say Hart Sisters Did Not Fulfill Will's Conditions When They Left House in Caretaker's Charge.

A suit brought by thirteen cousins, headed by Mrs. Martha Hart and Mrs. Imogene M. Gilon, of Brooklyn, to gain possession of a fortune left by Mrs. Esther Woods, reveals a romance of wealth that possesses the foundation of a plot for a highly interesting novel. Part of the property now being contested for in the courts is the old-fashioned house at Third street and Second avenue, in which the late Mrs. Woods lived for fifty years.

Her fortune was estimated at \$400,000. There was a horde of nephews and nieces who affectionately hung about her, but they were doomed to disappointment, for when she died her will left half the fortune to charity and the other half, including the old house, to two nieces, who had never so much as spoken to her.

There had been some estrangement between the father of these two nieces and the wealthy old woman, and they resented it. They lived in Bloomington, Ill.

Despite their silence Mrs. Woods kept track of them. She knew that both were highly accomplished, refined and dignified. One was a school teacher, Sarah, and the other, Esther, was reported to her as being beautiful.

The half of the property left to them had a condition attached. It was that they should live in her New York house for the rest of their lives and care for the objects she had loved. The condition included the stipulation that they must dust the pictures she mentioned each morning, pictures she mentioned each morning.

The other relatives contested the will, and for three years the case occupied the attention of the courts. The surrogate finally decided the will should stand and that the Misses Sarah and Esther Hart might take possession.

In May last the two sisters left the need of a breath of fresh air, and went to their former home in Bloomington, leaving the caretaker, Peter Scherrer, and his wife in charge.

The other relatives have seized upon this fact as the basis of an action to have the sisters ejected, holding that they have not fulfilled the conditions of the will.

The sisters find a staunch champion in Mrs. Scherrer, the wife of the caretaker of the old house, who says they have never ceased to live in the house, but are simply away on a vacation and that the old mansion is still their home.

She says she has also dusted the old pictures Mrs. Woods loved every day and that all the conditions of the will have been fulfilled, the letter of the will being in her possession.

The house is the last of a number of the old mansions that stood in the neighborhood fifty years ago. It is filled with old portraits, bric-a-brac and objects of art. In great chests up in the garret are the dresses that Mrs. Woods wore at her wedding and at the reception to Abraham Lincoln and the dance given at the old academy to the Prince of Wales, now the King of England.

The sisters will fight the suit.

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The tiger will sit with only its head out of the water on a blazing hot day in an Indian jungle. Sir Samuel Baker, after "beating" for a tiger for the greater part of a day, found and shot the tiger in this position, thoroughly enjoying itself. The tiger will also nearly immerse themselves when they come down to drink at night, and leave a long, dripping trail on the sand behind them when they emerge.

Among the few other "washing animals" is the raccoon. It is not only devoted to bathing and sunning itself, but has an odd habit of taking its food to the water and giving it a thorough washing before eating it. It will dabble anything which it takes a fancy to in the water. One which had a family at a zoological garden washed its untidy kittens so often that they died.

MR. AND MRS. LEOPOLD FEIST WELCOMED BY BAND AND FRIENDS ON RETURN FROM HONEYMOON.



BAND AND FRIENDS GREET BRIDAL PAIR

Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Feist, Stealthily Returning from Honeymoon, Are Hilariously Welcomed at Railroad Station

Leopold Feist, a music publisher, of No. 134 West Thirty-seventh street, who was married quietly to Miss Bessie Meyer, of this city, on June 24 last, returned from a honeymoon through the West to-day. He and his bride had projected to slip unobtrusively from the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street station of the New York Central

Railroad to their apartments in the Hotel Brunswick, Madison avenue and Eighty-ninth street.

Their friends were more witty than they, however, and the progress of the bride couple was a triumphal procession behind a band of thirty pieces playing popular airs which are published by Mr. Feist.

Mr. Feist's wedding was conducted so quietly that his friends did not have an opportunity to celebrate the event. They learned that he was to return to New York this week and made elaborate plans. The publisher heard of the preparations and decided to outwit his enthusiastic friends by dropping off the train at the Harlem station.

He unwisely took into his confidence in Chicago a friend who telegraphed others in New York that the bride couple would arrive at the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street depot this morning. Therefore when Mr. and Mrs. Feist got off the train a band of thirty pieces and as many friends were below in the waiting room to receive them. When the pair reached the foot of the stairway the band blared forth a

prelude that could be heard for many blocks and then played the Mendelssohn "Wedding March," while the friends of the bride and bridegroom surrounded them and showered them with congratulations.

Five carriages were in waiting and Mr. and Mrs. Feist were borne with a rush to the first carriage. The other vehicles soon filled to their full capacity and with the band leading, the procession started through One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street to Madison avenue and then down to the Hotel Brunswick. All along the route the band played incessantly and hundreds followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Feist will remain at the Hotel Brunswick until next fall, when they will begin housekeeping.

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